public and private which almost without exception in the nation have freely given access to their holdings,

To the legion of fellow searchers who have offered encourage-

ment, stimulation and guidance,

for the vision and support of the sponsors and the administra-

tors who have provided the ways and means,

For the devotion of those helpers who endured the rigors and hardships attendant on itinerant microphotography,

And for the loyalty of the editorial staff, and

To the host of contributors the Director makes grateful acknowledgment that a common impulse may dedicate these microfilms to the spirit of American scholarship.

WILLIAM SUMNER JENKINS

Library of Congress May 17, 1949